

Message Text

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51 S

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-05 OIC-04 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11

L-03 ACDA-19 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01

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R 031405Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8571

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6189

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE: US STATEMENT IN COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON BASKET III

REF: STATE 214636 NOTAL

1. AT OCTOBER 3 MEETING OF COORDINATING COMMITTEE, US REP (SHERER) AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL SUPPORTED POSITION OF DUTCH, UK, FRG, FRENCH AND NORWEGIAN REPS THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD MOVE AHEAD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE WITH READING OF ALL ITEMS IN BASKET III. GDR, POLISH AND SOVIET REPS RESPONDED THAT PROCEDURAL DISCUSSIONS ON THIS POINT WOULD LEAD NOWHERE. SOVIET REP, QUOTING FROM GROMYKO'S SPEECH TO UNGA, SAID SOVIETS WERE READY TO CONSIDER ALL AGENDA ITEMS, PROVIDED DELEGATIONS EXHIBITED POLITICAL WILL AND REALISM. DIS-
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CUSSION REACHED NO CONCRETE CONCLUSIONS BUT MAY HELP

TO ENCOURAGE MORE PROCEDURAL FLEXIBILITY ON THE PART
OF THE SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES. SOVIETS WERE INFORMED
IN ADVANCE OF POSITION WE INTENDED TO TAKE.

2. TEXT OF SHERER'S REMARKS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

I WOULD LIKE TO ASSOCIATE MY DELEGATION WITH WHAT HAS
BEEN SAID BY THE UK, NETHERLANDS AND FRENCH REP-
RESENTATIVES. AS YOU KNOW, MY DELEGATION BELIEVES IT
IMPORTANT TO BRING THIS CONFERENCE TO A SUCCESSFUL CON-
CLUSION. TO DO THIS IT IS INCUMBENT UPON US TO ADDRESS ALL
THE POINTS IN THE HELSINKI FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND
TO TRY TO REACH AGREEMENTS COVERING THEM. IF WE ARE TO
CARRY OUT THE HELSINKI MANDATE WITHOUT INORDINATE DELAY,
WE SHALL BE OBLIGED, I THINK, TO DEVELOP MORE EFFICIENT
PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH PROPOSALS COVERING THOSE
POINTS OF THE HELSINKI RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WE HAVE NOT
YET TAKEN UP IN A DRAFTING MODE. THIS APPLIES ESPECIALLY
TO BASKET III, WHERE PROCEDURAL DIFFICULTIES HAVE DELAYED,
UNNECESSARILY I BELIEVE, OUR WORK ON THE SUB-
STATIVE PROBLEMS AT ISSUE. PERHAPS IT IS NOW TIME FOR
THE BASKET III DISCUSSIONS TO ADOPT THE APPROACH THAT
HAS SERVED US WELL IN DRAFTING THE PRINCIPLES
DECLARATION. THAT IS, WHEN DISAGREEMENTS COME UP ON A
GIVEN POINT, WE COULD USE BRACKETS TO REFLECT THOSE DIFF-
ERENCES AND MOVE ON TO THE NEXT TOPIC. PERHAPS OTHER
PROCEDURAL DEVICES WOULD ACCOMPLISH THE SAME END, AND IF
OTHER DELEGATIONS HAVE PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS, WE WILL
CERTAINLY CONSIDER THEM WITH AN OPEN MIND. BUT WE NEED
TO FIND WAYS TO REVIEW ALL OF THE REMAINING TOPICS IN
BASKET III; TO WORK OUT AGREED FORMULATIONS WHEN POSSIBLE,
AND WHERE THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE INITIALLY, TO RECORD OUR
DISAGREEMENTS IN AN ORDERLY FASHION. THEN, AFTER THIS
INITIAL DRAFTING PHASE HAS BEEN COMPLETED, WE WILL ALL
HAVE A MUCH CLEARER IDEA OF WHERE THE MAJOR DIFFI-
CULTIES LIE. THEREAFTER, DURING A SECOND DRAFTING PHASE,
WE CAN RETURN TO THOSE ISSUES AND SEEK COMPROMISES ACCEPT-
ABLE TO ALL. MY DELEGATION, MR. CHAIRMAN, BELIEVES
THAT THIS GENERAL APPROACH OFFERS THE BEST PROSPECT OF
ADVANCING THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE, AND I SINCERELY
HOPE THAT ALL OF US CAN ACCEPT IT.

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END TEXT.ABRAMS

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